



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, DC 20460
OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

JUN 26 2019

Ms. Emily Berman
Union of Concerned Scientists
1825 K. Street NW Suite 800
Washington, DC 20006

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request EPA-HQ-2019-000125, Interim Response No. 1

Dear Ms. Berman:

1. SUMMARY OF REQUEST

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, identified above, dated October 3, 2019, requesting access to and copies of all communications to, from, or in the custody of former EPA employee Richard Yamada, from August 15, 2017 through November 3, 2017, that mention either "CASAC" and "Zarba" in the same communication, that mention "CASAC" and "Woods" in the same communication, and that mention "Cox" in any communication. Additionally, from August 15, 2017 through November 3, 2017, you requested all communications between Richard Yamada and Clint Woods that mention "Zarba."

This is the first interim release for this FOIA request.

2. DISPOSITION

Partial Grant.

3. DESCRIPTION OF RECORDS

Fifty-one records have been found responsive to this request so far. Five records are being released in full. Twenty-three records are being withheld in their entirety, and twenty-three records released with redactions. Information has been redacted in accordance with Exemption 5, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5) (Predecisional/Deliberative) and Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) (Personal Privacy).

4. COST INFORMATION

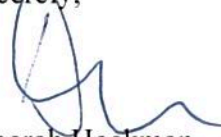
There are no costs to you associated with this request.

5. APPEAL RIGHTS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

You may appeal this response by email at hq.foia@epa.gov, or by mail to the National Freedom of Information Office, U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (2822T), Washington, DC 20460. Only items mailed through the United States Postal Service may be delivered to 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue. If you are submitting your appeal by hand delivery, courier service, or overnight delivery, you must address your correspondence to 1301 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 6416J, Washington, DC 20001. Your appeal must be in writing, and it must be received no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. The Agency will not consider appeals received after the 90-calendar-day limit. Appeals received after 5:00 pm EST will be considered received the next business day. The appeal letter should include the FOIA tracking number listed above. For quickest possible handling, the subject line of your email, the appeal letter, and its envelope, if applicable, should be marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Additionally, you may seek dispute resolution services from EPA's FOIA Public Liaison at hq.foia@epa.gov or (202) 566-1667, or from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways: by mail, Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8610 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001; email, ogis@nara.gov; telephone, (301) 837-1996 or (877) 684-6448; or fax, (301) 837-0348.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact Ms. Rebecca Clausen, ORD FOIA Officer, at clausen.rebecca@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Deborah Heckman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Deborah Heckman
Director (Acting)
Office of Program Accountability
and Resource Management